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CYPRUS: President Makarios' recently expressed reasonableness over a cabinet reshuffle is viewed with suspicion in Athens.

Makarios continues to state that he will reshuffle his cabinet "in due time," but adds that Athens' failure to clarify its wishes has prevented him from doing so. Makarios also has said that he suspects that the Greek chargé in Nicosia is not portraying Athens' views accurately.

The Archbishop's immediate goal appears to be to get the Greeks to fill the post of the Greek ambassador to Cyprus, which has been vacant since the end of February. Makarios apparently views this as a necessary first step in ending his feud with Athens. The Archbishop also is implying that once a rapprochement is worked out, he will support a fresh approach to the island's larger problems--the inter-communal difficulties.

The Greeks have failed to react so far to Makarios' amenable attitude. They probably suspect that the Archbishop's present mood will last only as long as it suits his purpose of getting a Greek ambassador in Cyprus.

Athens also desires an early start of the intercommunal talks but Makarios' promises must become reality first.

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TURKEY: Prime Minister Erim's resignation, which was shelved until Soviet President Podgorny had completed his official visit, probably will be announced today.

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[redacted] Defense Minister Melen will become acting prime minister, but Erim's successor should be named within the next few days. The prime minister - designate probably will be either one of the presidential appointees to the Senate or a political independent. A party member, however, may be asked to give up his partisan mantle temporarily in order to qualify as a political independent.

Erim's departure from the premiership before his successor was named suggests there may have been major political differences between him and the military. The uncertainty surrounding his resignation may be clarified following the meeting of the National Security Council in the next day or two.

The military leaders continue to be dissatisfied with the general political situation in the country and the lack of any appreciable political, social, and economic reform legislation. Nevertheless, they still are reluctant to suspend parliament and assume direct control of the government.

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[redacted]
Each succeeding crisis, however, narrows the options and increases the possibility of further military intervention.

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